

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of the renewal of the Red Rooster's liquor and entertainment licenses. As a member of Madison's music community for the past 25 years, and the Music Director of Girls Rock Camp Madison, I can attest to the value of this venue in the strength of our arts community. The Red Rooster is unique in many ways and a vital source of support for local musicians.

It's one of a very few venues in town that doesn't charge a local musician for the room. And the only venue that I'm aware of, that doesn't charge that *also* supplies a backline of instruments/amps and the well-calibrated sound system, along with the sound engineer. For use of a room such as the High Noon Saloon for example, this would require the first \$300 of ticket sales to go to the venue. This is quite impractical for local musicians, especially those just getting their start, to make up for that overhead cost and make any reasonable profit as a musician.

This venue has become known as one of the few "listening rooms" in town as well, where people actually go just to hang out and hear new or old/favorite bands. They communicate well with artists and work to promote shows for local musicians and support up-and-coming touring musicians by pairing them with locals who have a draw. They've also hosted numerous fundraisers supporting local organizations, including a recent one for Girls Rock Camp Madison where we were able to raise close to \$2,000 for our scholarship funds.

While I understand that oversight is essential for the safety of our community, I truly believe that an isolated incident and the poor judgement of one individual should not shut down a resource to our community like this.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Beth Kille